

► Event co-chairwomen Wynn Dalton Herbers (left) and Julie McMahon French introduce ghoulish characters such as Glenda the Good Witch, the Wicked Witch of the West, the Addams Family and more.



PHOTOS BY DEANNA WALENCIAK



► Gala attendees got into the Halloween spirit for the event, donning spooky costumes and raising support for the Angus Foundation.

► A variety of treats were served, including chocolate-dipped fruit, graham crackers and more sweets.



► The Association and Angus Foundation kicked off the event by honoring the Johnson family with No. 4 prints of the Angus bull and Angus cow, signed by artist Frank C. Murphy. Pictured are (from left) Casey Jentz, NJAA director; Paul Hill, Foundation chairman; Betty and Fred Johnson; Joe Elliott, former Association president; Jeana Sankey, NJAA vice chairman; and Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation director of development.

Brewing Up Big Benefits



First-ever Angus Foundation Gala & Auction proves success for nonprofit organization.

by Barb Baylor Anderson

Summitcrest Farms provided just the right mix of haunting and hospitality to cast a spell of success for the 2004 Angus Foundation Gala & Auction. “That Old Black Magic” took place Oct. 31 at Fred and Betty Johnson’s farm near Summitville, Ohio.

“Everyone helped to make it a wonderful evening. We were happy to host this important event, and hope it will encourage more Angus breeders to get involved with Angus Foundation fund-raising in the future,” Fred says.

The event attracted more than 300 Angus supporters and raised more than \$69,000, says Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation director of development. “It was a total success, and all feedback we have received has been positive,” he says. “All credit goes to our event co-chairs, Julie McMahon French of Belle Point Ranch and Wynn Dalton Herbers of Daltons on the Sycamore, and our wonderful volunteers on the 2004 gala and auction committee for organizing the event and associated fund-raising activities.”

“This is a great way to add a bit of variety and raise funds for the Angus Foundation,” Herbers says. “It’s fun, and it gets a lot of people involved. And the more people involved, the more who understand

2004 Angus Foundation Gala & Auction donors and buyers

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the message of the Angus Foundation. This event allows hard-working breeders to kick back and have a good time while at the same time supporting our industry and investing in its future.”

The evening began with a special presentation by the American Angus Association and Angus Foundation Board of Directors to recognize the Johnson family. Tom Cook, Alexandria, Va., donated the No. 4 prints of the Angus bull and Angus cow, signed by artist Frank C. Murphy, as a gift for the Foundation to present to the Johnsons. Association and Foundation Board members and officers contributed to have the prints matted and framed for the presentation.

“The Johnsons did a magnificent job as hosts for this event. They were very gracious,” says Joe Elliott, former American Angus Association president from Adams, Tenn. “The evening created a lot of excitement for everyone involved.”

Trick or treat

Not only did the evening generate excitement, it drew out the “spookier” side of many Association and Foundation Board members and directors. Elliott, aka Elvira in boots, rode into the barn housing the festivities on a motorcycle to be auctioned during the evening. Elvira’s partners in crime included the Wicked Witch of the West (Paul Hill, Foundation chairman from Bidwell, Ohio), Glenda the Good Witch (Bill Davis, Sidney, Mont.) and Harry Potter (Summitcrest’s special projects coordinator, Marty Hultman). The Addams Family was also present, including Terry “Gomez” Cotton, Angus Productions Inc. (API) general manager; Mary Ann “Morticia” McMahon, Lavaca, Ark.; and Jared “Thing” Prusia, the Johnsons’ grandson.

The costumed group kicked off the auction with a comical skit, setting up the theme for the auction and stirring up enough enthusiasm that Glenda the Good Witch even auctioned a kiss. More legitimate auction items ranged from gift certificates, a cattle chute, photography, and Web and advertising design to a pheasant hunt, a week at the beach and event tickets. Angus collectibles and one-of-a-kind, classic novelty items for the home and the farm were also auctioned. Kevin Wendt, Columbus, Ohio, served as auctioneer.

“The auction items were great and sold well,” Herbers says. “Enticing and exciting items are always desired, but utilitarian items work well, too.”

Entertainment at various times during the evening was provided by syndicated columnist and radio commentator Baxter Black,

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► Magician Kevin Dawson provided a portion of the entertainment for the evening, wowing Angus enthusiasts with his sorcery.



► Attendees were served hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner and desserts, thanks to the Spread Eagle Tavern, Hanoverton, Ohio.

No eye of newt here

Gala attendees were treated to a delightful array of bewitching hors d'oeuvres, buffet dishes and delectable desserts, thanks to the Spread Eagle Tavern, Hanoverton, Ohio. General Manager Dave Peterson described the event as “formal relaxation.”

“We enjoyed serving this group. The Johnsons were wonderful hosts, and the guests had a lot of fun. It was fun to watch everyone enjoy themselves,” Peterson says.

Chef Mark Zimmerman’s menu included everything from gourmet cheeses and crackers to spinach dip with homemade tortillas and crostini with shrimp and pesto. Dinner featured *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) prime rib, chicken and all the fixings. Gala ghouls also enjoyed a chocolate fountain, pumpkin pie treats, petit fours and more.

The Spread Eagle Tavern dates back to the early 19th century. Erected in 1837, the Ohio landmark boasts seven dining rooms and five guestrooms and is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. For more information on the Spread Eagle Tavern, visit www.spreadeagletavern.com.

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Triple K Angus Farm
Woodlawn Farms

Editor’s Note: This list provided by the Angus Foundation.

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magician Kevin Dawson, and the band Good Vibrations. The setting provided a festive atmosphere. Table decorations were fashioned with pumpkins and autumn florals by Betty's brother, Don Johnson, and his daughter, Wendy. Fred himself even nailed hundreds of corn stalks to cover the entire barn wall to provide an appropriate backdrop for the ghoulish evening.

Conjuring up awareness

"The gala proved to be a good way to raise funds because it was an opportunity to increase awareness among people about how they can give back to the Angus industry," Elliott says. "We want our members to understand the diversity of opportunities we hope the Angus Foundation can achieve. Many members think the Foundation is only about our juniors, but it is much more. It is also about education and research that can benefit the entire beef industry, as well as help our juniors learn about Angus and about life."

"The gala provided a singular focus on the Foundation. We didn't piggyback it with an existing national Angus event," French says. "We had good volunteer help, and provided an opportunity for anyone to contribute at whatever level they wanted.



That helped make the event a success."

Specifically, funds from the auction will be used to develop educational and instructional tools for Angus breeders of all ages, allow Angus "think tanks" to

gather and implement breeders' ideas to enhance the position of Angus in the beef industry, create leadership development, enhance the popular "Angus Boot Camp" for regional and state Angus leaders, and award additional college scholarships to Angus youth.

"This was truly a chance to begin to expand our vision for the Foundation, and enhance and broaden it to everyone's advantage," Hill says. "As industry leaders,

Angus breeders have a responsibility to educate ourselves in a way to better the breed, as well as educate the public about the positive aspects of the beef industry. We are passionate about the breed, and we want to get our message out.

"We have touched so many people as beneficiaries since the Foundation was created," Hill continues. "You cannot put a price on the benefits of the Foundation, but every contribution, large or small, is important and touches lives."

"We appreciate the many generous Angus breeders and friends who donated or purchased auction items. The Angus Foundation is genuinely appreciative of these invaluable benefactors and supporters," Jenkins says. "Numerous individuals have encouraged us to make this an annual event. Those interested in hosting and helping to underwrite an event such as this in 2005 should contact the Angus Foundation soon so plans can begin toward that objective."

More information about the Angus Foundation can be found at www.angusfoundation.org.

